What is claimed is:

1.   A performance data editing method for a computer system containing a display, comprising the steps of:

controlling the computer system to display a plurality of layers on a screen of the display, wherein at least one execution icon corresponding to execution-related data can be attached to each of the layers;

providing an instruction to control at least one of the layers to be placed in a display mode or a non-display mode selectively; and

controlling the computer system to perform or stop displaying the at least one of the layers in response to the instruction.

2.   A performance data editing method for a computer system containing a display, comprising the steps of:

controlling the computer system to display a plurality of layers on a screen of the display, wherein at least one execution icon corresponding to execution-related data can be attached to each of the layers;

providing an instruction to control at least one of the layers to be subjected to small-scale display; and

controlling the computer system to perform the small-scale display on the at least one of the layers in response to the instruction.

3.   A performance data editing method according to claim 2 further comprising the step of:

restoring the layer from the small-scale display to normal-scale

display in response to a mouse operation being effected on a prescribed portion of the layer.

4.	A performance data editing method for a computer system containing a display, comprising the steps of:

controlling the computer system to display a plurality of layers on a screen of the display, wherein at least one execution icon corresponding to execution-related data can be attached to each of the layers;

providing an instruction to change a display location of at least one of the layers; and

controlling the computer system to change the display location of the at least one of the layers in response to the instruction.

5.	A performance data editing method according to claim 4 wherein the plurality of layers are vertically arranged on the screen, while the instruction designates a change of the display location of the layer within vertical arrangement of the layers.

6.	A performance data editing method according to claim 4 wherein the instruction to change the display location of the layer is given by a command which is selected by a user of the computer system on the screen of the display.

7.	A performance data editing method according to claim 4 wherein the display location of the layer is changed by effecting drag-and-drop

operations with a mouse on a prescribed portion of the layer.

8.   A performance data editing method for a computer system containing a display, comprising the steps of:

controlling the computer system to display at least one layer on a screen of the display;

attaching an execution icon corresponding to execution-related data onto the layer, wherein the execution-related data constructs a part of performance data;

allowing the execution icon of the layer to move in response to an operation of a user of the computer system;

detecting an event in which the execution icon is moved outside of a prescribed display area; and

upon detection of the event, deleting the execution-related data corresponding to the execution icon from the performance data.

9.   A performance data editing method for a computer system containing a display, comprising the steps of:

controlling the computer system to display at least one layer on a screen of the display;

allowing an execution icon corresponding to execution-related data to be attached onto the layer, wherein the execution-related data constructs a part of performance data;

allowing the execution icon of the layer to move in response to an operation of a user of the computer system;

detecting an event in which the execution icon is moved outside of a prescribed display area; and

upon detection of the event, deleting the execution icon on the screen.

10.   A performance data editing method for a computer system containing a mouse and a display, comprising the steps of:

displaying a score window showing a plurality of layers which are vertically arranged on a screen of the display in response to control parameters of music performance, wherein one of the layers shows a staff notation with notes being sequentially arranged in progression of the music performance;

attaching execution icons corresponding to execution-related data onto the layers respectively at selected positions, which are arbitrarily selected by a user of the computer system;

displaying an icon modify window for allowing modification being effected on an execution icon selected from among the execution icons attached to the layers in response to operations of the mouse being controlled by the user, wherein the icon modify window magnifies the execution icon that indicates an specific icon symbol representing a specific execution; and

displaying an icon select palette in response to a user's operation effected on a button of the score window with the mouse, wherein the icon select window provides a number of execution icons of different types for selection of the user.

11. A performance data editing method according to claim 10 further comprising the steps of:

effecting small-scale display on a layer selected from among the plurality of layers on the score window in response to user's operations with the mouse, so that the layer is displayed in a small scale providing visuality for the user to recognize existence of the layer on the screen; and

automatically displaying a release button which is placed at a selected position of the layer of the small-scale display and which allows the user to restore the layer from the small-scale display to normal-scale display.

12. A performance data editing method according to claim 10 further comprising the step of:

allowing the user to modify the execution icon such that the execution icon is stretched or shrunk while the icon symbol is changed in shape with the mouse on the icon modify window, so that the modification of the execution icon is automatically reflected on the score window such that an execution of the execution icon is modified in at least one parameter.

13. A performance data editing method according to claim 10 further comprising the steps of:

allowing the user to select an execution icon from among the execution icons listed on the icon select palette; and

automatically relocating the selected execution icon at a high-order

place in arrangement of the execution icons on the icon select palette.

14.   A performance data editing apparatus containing a display comprising:

a first controller for displaying a plurality of layers on a screen of the display, wherein at least one execution icon corresponding to execution-related data can be attached to each of the layers;

an instructor for instructing at least one of the layers to be placed in a display mode or a non-display mode selectively; and

a second controller for performing or stop displaying the at least one of the layers being instructed.

15.   A performance data editing apparatus containing a display comprising:

a first controller for displaying a plurality of layers on a screen of the display, wherein at least one execution icon corresponding to execution-related data can be attached to each of the layers;

an instructor for instructing at least one of the layers to be subjected to small-scale display; and

a second controller for performing the small-scale display on the at least one of the layers being instructed.

16.   A performance data editing apparatus containing a display comprising:

a first controller for displaying a plurality of layers on a screen of

the display, wherein at least one execution icon corresponding to execution-related data can be attached to each of the layers;

an instructor for instructing at least one of the layers to change its display location on the screen; and

a second controller for changing the display location of the at least one of the layers being instructed.

17.   A performance data editing apparatus containing a display comprising:

a controller for displaying at least one layer on a screen of the display;

an operator being operated by a user for attaching an execution icon corresponding to execution-related data onto the layer and for moving the execution icon of the layer, wherein the execution-related data constructs a part of performance data;

a detector for detecting an event in which the execution icon is moved outside of a prescribed display area; and

a delete executor for upon detection of the event, deleting the execution-related data corresponding to the execution icon from the performance data.

18.   A performance data editing apparatus containing a display comprising:

a controller for displaying at least one layer on a screen of the display;

an operator being operated by a user for attaching an execution icon corresponding to execution-related data onto the layer and for moving the execution icon of the layer, wherein the execution-related data constructs a part of performance data;

a detector for detecting an event in which the execution icon is moved outside of a prescribed display area; and

a delete executor for upon detection of the event, deleting the execution icon on the screen.

19.   A performance data editing apparatus containing a mouse and a display comprising:

a controller for displaying a score window showing a plurality of layers which are vertically arranged on a screen of the display in response to control parameters of music performance, wherein one of the layers shows a staff notation with notes being sequentially arranged in progression of the music performance;

an icon provider for providing execution icons corresponding to execution-related data being attached onto the layers respectively at selected positions, which are arbitrarily selected by a user;

a modifier for displaying an icon modify window for allowing modification being effected on an execution icon selected from among the execution icons attached to the layers in response to operations of the mouse being controlled by the user, wherein the icon modify window magnifies the execution icon that indicates an specific icon symbol representing a specific execution; and

an icon selector for displaying an icon select palette in response to a user's operation effected on a button of the score window with the mouse, wherein the icon select window provides a number of execution icons of different types for selection of the user.

20. A machine-readable media storing data and programs that cause a computer system containing a display for performing a performance data editing method comprising the steps of:

controlling the computer system to display a plurality of layers on a screen of the display, wherein at least one execution icon corresponding to execution-related data can be attached to each of the layers;

providing an instruction to control at least one of the layers to be placed in a display mode or a non-display mode selectively; and

controlling the computer system to perform or stop displaying the at least one of the layers in response to the instruction.

21. A machine-readable media storing data and programs that cause a computer system containing a display for performing a performance data editing method comprising the steps of:

controlling the computer system to display a plurality of layers on a screen of the display, wherein at least one execution icon corresponding to execution-related data can be attached to each of the layers;

providing an instruction to control at least one of the layers to be subjected to small-scale display; and

controlling the computer system to perform the small-scale display

on the at least one of the layers in response to the instruction.

22.   A machine-readable media storing data and programs that cause a computer system containing a display for performing a performance data editing method comprising the steps of:

controlling the computer system to display a plurality of layers on a screen of the display, wherein at least one execution icon corresponding to execution-related data can be attached to each of the layers;

providing an instruction to change a display location of at least one of the layers; and

controlling the computer system to change the display location of the at least one of the layers in response to the instruction.

23.   A machine-readable media storing data and programs that cause a computer system containing a display for performing a performance data editing method comprising the steps of:

controlling the computer system to display at least one layer on a screen of the display;

attaching an execution icon corresponding to execution-related data onto the layer, wherein the execution-related data constructs a part of performance data;

allowing the execution icon of the layer to move in response to an operation of a user of the computer system;

detecting an event in which the execution icon is moved outside of a prescribed display area; and

upon detection of the event, deleting the execution-related data corresponding to the execution icon from the performance data.

24.   A machine-readable media storing data and programs that cause a computer system containing a display for performing a performance data editing method comprising the steps of:

controlling the computer system to display at least one layer on a screen of the display;

allowing an execution icon corresponding to execution-related data to be attached onto the layer, wherein the execution-related data constructs a part of performance data;

allowing the execution icon of the layer to move in response to an operation of a user of the computer system;

detecting an event in which the execution icon is moved outside of a prescribed display area; and

upon detection of the event, deleting the execution icon on the screen.

25.   A machine-readable media storing data and programs that cause a computer system containing a mouse and a display to perform a performance data editing method comprising the steps of:

displaying a score window showing a plurality of layers which are vertically arranged on a screen of the display in response to control parameters of music performance, wherein one of the layers shows a staff notation with notes being sequentially arranged in progression of the music

performance;

attaching execution icons corresponding to execution-related data onto the layers respectively at selected positions, which are arbitrarily selected by a user of the computer system;

displaying an icon modify window for allowing modification being effected on an execution icon selected from among the execution icons attached to the layers in response to operations of the mouse being controlled by the user, wherein the icon modify window magnifies the execution icon that indicates an specific icon symbol representing a specific execution; and

displaying an icon select palette in response to a user's operation effected on a button of the score window with the mouse, wherein the icon select window provides a number of execution icons of different types for selection of the user.